

GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE
October 5, 2005 Board Meeting

A meeting of the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine was held on Wednesday, October 5, 2005, at the Professional Licensing Boards, in Macon Georgia.

The following Board members were present:

Hugh Hill, DVM, President
Needham Bateman, DVM
Jim Brett, DVM
Jan Hines, DVM
Charles Lance

Others Present:

Anita O. Martin, Executive Director
Susan Hewett, Board Secretary
Tricia Downing, Assistant District Attorney/Board Attorney
Judy Webb, DVM, Banfield

President Hill established that a quorum was present, and the **Public Hearing** that was scheduled to begin at 9:30a.m. was **called to order** at 9:33 a.m.

Rule 700-7-.02 Renewal of License: No written or verbal comments were received regarding this rule.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 9:35a.m. and the **meeting** scheduled to begin at 9:35 a.m. was **called to order** at 9:35 a.m.

Rule 700-7-.01 Renewal of License: Dr. Brett made a motion, Dr. Hines seconded and the Board voted to **adopt** this rule.

700-7-.01 Renewal of License.

(1) Every person who holds a valid license, as a veterinarian issued by the Board shall immediately upon issuance thereof be deemed registered with the Board and be issued a certificate of registration. Said license shall expire on December 31 of the even numbered years and shall be renewable biennially in accordance with the Official Code of Georgia Annotated Section 43-50-40 upon payment of the biennial license fees. Any licensee whose address changes must notify the Board in writing within 30 days of that change of address.

(2) The Division Director shall notify all expired licensees on January 31 following the deadline for renewal of the fact that they are practicing veterinary medicine in violation of the Georgia Veterinary Practice Act.

(3) The payment of the renewal fee for a licensed veterinarian on active duty with any branch of the armed forces of the United States shall be waived for a period of time not to exceed the longer of three years or the duration of a national emergency.

(4) Any service member as defined in O.C.G.A. § 15-12-1 whose license to practice veterinary medicine or as a veterinary technician expired while serving on active duty outside the state shall be permitted to practice veterinary medicine or as a veterinary technician in accordance with the expired license and shall not be charged with a violation relating to such practice on an expired license for a period of six (6) months from the date of her or her discharge from active duty or reassignment to a location within the state. Any such service member shall be entitled to renew such expired license without penalty within six (6) months after the date of her or her discharge from active duty or reassignment to a location with the state. The service member must present to the board a copy of the official military orders or a written verification signed by the service members commanding officer to waive any charges.

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Authority O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-25, 43-1-31, 43-50-21, and 43-50-40.

The Board voted that the formulation and adoption of this rule does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rules cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of the applicable laws as provided by the Attorney General's office.

The board also voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of the applicable laws to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed in O.C.G.A. §50-13-4(3)(A)(B)(C)(D). The formulation and adoption of this rule will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated in the field of Veterinary Medicine.

Minutes from the August 25, 2005 meeting: Dr. Brett made a motion, Dr. Bateman seconded and the Board voted to **approve** the minutes.

Ratify list of newly issued licenses: Dr. Hines made a motion, Dr. Bateman seconded and the Board voted to **ratify** the following list of newly issued licenses.

License Number	Name	License Type
VETF000474	Childress, Michael Owen	Veterinary Faculty
VETF000475	Scherzer, Jakob	Veterinary Faculty
VET007372	Keen, Kenneth W	Veterinarian
VET007373	Capell, Kristyn Leigh	Veterinarian
VET007374	Athey, Rebecca Lee	Veterinarian
VET007375	Blasier, Megan Webber	Veterinarian
VET007376	Henderson, Jill Suzette	Veterinarian
VET007377	Bronner, Courtney Powers	Veterinarian
VET007378	Wiggins, Monique	Veterinarian
VETT000697	Russell, Jamie Christin	Veterinary Technician
	REINSTATEMENTS	
VET005560	Herrin, Kimberly V.	Veterinarian
VET005172	Nix, Robert Jay	Veterinarian
VET003839	Lester, James S.	Veterinarian
VET005101	Hickman-Davis, Judy Marie	Veterinarian
VET005824	Gibson, William Scott, Jr.	Veterinarian
VET004797	Griffin, Brenda	Veterinarian
VET001243	Murray, John Girardeau	Veterinarian

2006 Meeting Schedule: Dr. Brett made a motion, Dr. Hines seconded and the Board voted to **approve** the 2006 meeting schedule.

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Correspondence from Eileen P. Williams, M.D. regarding the UGA Veterinary School: The Board requested that this be referred to the Dean of the Veterinary Medicine School, Dr. Sheila Allen.

Correspondence from Kathy Hunt at AAVSB regarding Vet Tech National Exam: Viewed as **informational**

Information to consider regarding licensure for displaced disaster victims: The Board requested that a temporary license application be made available on the website. Applicants can apply for a temporary license or the regular process will be expedited. Provide a link to the GVMA listing of jobs available in Georgia.

Miscellaneous:

Legislative Issues that may arise during the 2006 session:

- The Board supports the addition of "homeopathy" to the definition in OCGA 43-50-31(11)(a)
- Based on how the legislation is drafted, the Board would consider the removal of the "grandfather" clause for licensure consideration of vet techs based on on-the-job experience.
- The Board supports an amendment to OCGA 43-50-44 to add the following:
 - *Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit the delegation by a licensed veterinarian to other employees other than a registered veterinary technician of acts, duties, or functions within the practice of veterinary medicine provided that the veterinarian provides appropriate supervision of such employee at a level defined by the Board by Board rule.*

The Board requested an update on all cases from Enforcement and the AG's office to be provided at the next board meeting. It was also requested that if cases have not been worked, an explanation and timeframe for completion be provided.

Dr. Bateman provided a report on the AAVSB meeting held in St. Louis.

Dr. Brett made a motion, Dr. Bateman seconded and the Board voted to enter into **Executive Session** in accordance with O.C.G.A §43-1-19(h)(2) and §43-1-2(k) to deliberate on applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on applications, investigative reports, and the Assistant Attorney General's report. Voting in favor of the motion were those present who included Drs. Hill, Hines, and Mr. Lance. The Board concluded **Executive Session** in order to vote on these matters and to continue with the public session.

V.T., DVM – Investigative Interview: Dr. Brett made a motion, Dr. Bateman seconded and the Board voted to **close** case VET050071.

Reports:

Executive Director's Report – Anita O. Martin

- **Letter received from Dr. J. Todd Thompson regarding his relationship with Guy Wells, D.C.:** Viewed as **informational**
- **Request from Enforcement Agents to have a training session on how to conduct a facility inspection:** Dr. Bateman has agreed to talk with Kathy Harvey and make arrangements for this training at his office in Atlanta.
- **Dr. Steve A. Morris' failure to comply with a consent order:** Dr. Brett made a motion, Dr. Bateman seconded and the Board voted that if an alternative

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address could not be found for Dr. Morris and if he does not comply to **refer to the AG for a Notice of Hearing for revocation.**

- **A.D.P. – Vet Tech Applicant:** Dr. Brett made a motion, Dr. Bateman seconded and the Board voted to **approve** the application.

Kathy Harvey, Enforcement Report:

- VET040073 – In AG's office for consent order

Jim Brett, Cognizant Report: Mr. Lance made a motion, Dr. Bateman seconded and the Board voted to **approve** the following recommendations regarding cases reported on by the Cognizant member.

<u>CASE NUMBER</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
VET050032	Close with letter of concern
VET050038	Close
VET050037	Close

Hugh Hill, Cognizant Report: Dr. Brett made a motion, Dr. Bateman seconded and the Board voted to **approve** the following recommendations regarding cases reported on by the Cognizant member.

<u>CASE NUMBER</u>	<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
VET060005	Request specific information from vet
VET060006	Close
VET050079	Schedule for Investigative Interview
VET060010	Request specific information from vet
VET030037	Close
VET050032	Close with letter of concern

Tricia Downing, Board Attorney Report:

- Provided advice concerning the issue of supervision of unlicensed personnel

The next Board meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2005 at 9:30 A.M.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Minutes recorded by: Susan S. Hewett, Board Secretary

Minutes edited by: Anita O. Martin, Executive Director

These minutes were approved at the December 14, 2005 Board meeting.